USAID/Africa Regional

Annual Report

FY 2004

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Africa Regional

Performance:

Summary of Progress

Despite the positive-and often sustainable--results of so many USAID-funded programs in Africa, economies there fell short of expectations in FY 2003. While well-managed reformers like Ethiopia, Rwanda and Uganda grew at 6% or more, Africa's overall average annual growth rate slowed from 4.3% to 3.2%. These modest outcomes reflect the weaker global economy and Africa's all-too-familiar mix of man-made and natural disasters, ranging from drought, political unrest and multiple armed conflicts to the continuing HIV/AIDS pandemic. To pull itself out of poverty, Africa must have sustainable growth. USAID Africa Bureau's Office of Sustainable Development (AFR/SD) thus works via innovative, often highly leveraged programs offering tools to help Africans address their pressing agricultural, environmental, educational and health needs.

U.S. interests and goals: For the United States, African development assistance is not charity; it represents a vital investment in global peace and safety, in an area that is a growing source of goods as well as a huge potential market. Reducing poverty, taming AIDS, easing conflict and promoting democracy are crucial to U.S. security and regional stability. Of special note is Africa's role in U.S. energy security, since Africa can partially supplant Mideast oil sources. Real progress in Africa will enhance our collective safety and help Africans help themselves in the long term.

Donor relations: USAID's Africa Bureau has spearheaded improved donor coordination that can reduce the high transaction costs of development aid, making scarce resources go farther while lessening the bureaucratic burden on recipient countries. AFR/SD strongly stresses interagency efforts, drawing resources from other national and international development entities; from U.S. partners, such as the State Department and Peace Corps; and from the private sector, providing everything from funding to expertise. For example, AFR/SD polio team effectively unites many diverse actors in the polio eradication effort, including U.S. government agencies, the European Union, World Health Organization (WHO), Gates Foundation, UN Foundation and World Bank.

Challenges: USAID and its partners confront the challenge of stimulating sustainable growth in the face of conflict, corruption, frail infrastructure, low human capacity, resource degradation and an increasingly heavy disease burden. New or ongoing crises in the Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire and Zimbabwe; continued conflict in Liberia, Burundi, Uganda, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); and longstanding repression in countries like Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, Swaziland, and Togo still undermine progress towards real development. Not all the news, however, is unwelcome. FY 2003 saw significant moves towards resolving long-standing conflicts in Liberia, Burundi, Sudan, and DRC. More African countries began facing the HIV/AIDS epidemic squarely, and a variety of actors-- private foundations, pharmaceutical firms, and governments abroad, including that of the United States-- announced or launched new programs offering a substantial infusion of fresh resources into the battle against AIDS.

AFR/SD again met, and often exceeded, its development objectives for FY 2003. While USAID's reorganization reduced certain AFR/SD roles, such as providing technical analysis and support to USAID's field programs, AFR/SD continued to play a strong role in coordinating the work of the Bureau and its many partners. In particular, AFR/SD contributed technical and managerial expertise to several Presidential and Administrator's initiatives intended to have wide-ranging effects on African development. The DG team launched the ground-breaking, multi-sectoral Anti-Corruption Initiative, which it designed last year. Moreover, the four initiatives AFR/SD launched in FY 2002--in agriculture, trade, education and

the environment--moved into implementation in FY 2003 under AFR/SD guidance. All of AFR/SD's activities continued to reflect its philosophy of promoting policies, strategies, methods and tools that will ensure African-led development.

AFR/SD's 2003 program pursued two broad themes: (1) strengthening African-based institutions and (2) improving and expanding African support networks. In areas like economic growth, agriculture, environment and health, strategic objective (SO) teams helped to raise key African institutions' capacity to do research, formulate and advocate policies, find and disseminate best practices, and improve linkages with similar institutions. Some sectoral highlights follow:

1. In agriculture, AFR/SD chiefly focused on the President's Initiative to End Hunger in Africa (IEHA), launched in August 2002, working to (1) rapidly identify and implement core investments with great potential (direct and spillover) to stimulate smallholder productivity and income growth, and (2) build alliances/synergies to complement these investments and pull in more resources for wider impact. Besides launching IEHA, AFR/SD continued to help African institutions raise and share scarce resources while spreading the benefits of agricultural research and training.

2. The Environmental Quality team supported compliance and training activities helping to ensure that environmental consequences of USAID-funded activities are identified and considered before they begin. The team aided USAID globally by creating environmental assessment procedures for large public-private partnership activities funded under USAID's Global Development Alliance (GDA). Having a clear, timely process raises the odds of success for these vital efforts.

3. In education, AFR/SD began implementing the President's Africa Education Initiative (AEI), slated to provide $200 million of support over the next four years in addition to AFR/SD's core education funding. AEI focused on teacher training; providing textbooks and scholarships for African girls and vulnerable boys; increasing parents' involvement in education; and mitigating the impacts of HIV/AIDS on education. AEI began teacher-training activities in six countries, training 8,300 new teachers and upgrading the skills of over 16,000 existing ones. AFR/SD also helped increase learning opportunities for orphans and vulnerable children and launched an effort to develop new educational opportunities in predominately Muslim communities in East Africa.

4. In health, the AFR/SD team supported advocacy and research efforts in diverse arenas, with noteworthy results. For example, countries with USAID immunization programs had 10% higher rates of coverage than others in the region. AFR/SD worked with African partners to test a promising community-based approach to TB control; 13 countries are now using this method. AFR/SD also helped update national malaria treatment methods, while 43 African countries are using the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) approach promoted by AFR/SD. AFR/SD and partners held the Third Pan-African Malaria Research Conference in Tanzania in November 2002, with over 900 attendees-Africa's largest-ever malaria research meeting.

AFR/SD's HIV/AIDS team strengthened the capacity of faith-based groups and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to build practical tools for community-based work with orphans and other vulnerable children. USAID also strengthened multi-sectoral approaches to confronting HIV/AIDS and gave financial, technical and material assistance to African institutions and to the National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS.

The AFR/SD polio team continued to make progress in the effort to eradicate polio in Africa through vaccination and surveillance campaigns undertaken with USAID's technical and financial support. So far in 2003, 35 of the 46 countries in the WHO Africa region have met the indicators required to be certified as polio-free, compared to 25 in 2002. Only three countries in Africa (versus six last year) are still polio-endemic, though the number of cases in Nigeria rose.

5. In economic growth, the AFR/SD team launched the Trade for African Development and Enterprise (TRADE) Initiative. Key to this initiative are the Hubs for Global Competitivenes--three regional centers (two opened in FY 2003) that provide trade capacity-building services to sub-Saharan African countries

and regional organizations. They have already begun to meet objectives to enhance Africa's competitiveness in global markets, by promoting U.S.-African business linkages, enhancing competitiveness of African products and services, expanding trade's role in poverty reduction, improving the delivery of public services and helping Africans to build effective trade policy formulation.

6. The democracy and governance (DG) team worked in nine countries under the Anti-Corruption Initiative to promote more open government procurement, raise civic understanding of fiscal decision-making, and strengthen media's investigative capabilities. In addition, the team helped its development partners broaden DG gains in Africa by emphasizing DG in all sectors--agriculture, environment, economic growth, trade, health, humanitarian/transition aid and education. Finally, via small grants, the team supported work in 38 countries involving children's and women's rights; HIV/AIDS awareness and rights; promotion of peace and reconciliation; capacity-building for new members of parliament; and support for electoral processes.

7. Last year, the AFR/SD crisis mitigation team launched the Conflict and Peace-Building Fund. CPBF closely follows key opportunities for peace in Africa, whether emerging (Uganda), much delayed (Eritrea-Ethiopia), at a turning point (Burundi, DRC, Sudan, Liberia) or in consolidation (Sierra Leone, Angola, Senegal). Its focus was on programs to avert violence, mitigate it, or address its immediate aftermath, as well as conflict management work to address causes/effects. An important team role was to give technical guidance on reintegrating former combatants into communities. The team continues to function as USAID's information clearinghouse on conflict, fielding queries from USAID operational units and external audiences worldwide.

Factors Affecting Program Performance

Africa faced a series of old and new issues in FY 2003 that affected existing or developing programs in a variety of sectors. HIV/AIDS continues to spread widely, with Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho, Swaziland and South Africa recording prevalence rates of over 20%-30%. The disease drains businesses and national treasuries, keeps children out of school, kills or exhausts people who might be natural development leaders--farmers trying new techniques, teachers trained in life-skills pedagogy, citizens spearheading civil society groups. Globally, sub-Saharan Africa led the world in armed conflict, a state that reverses progress in every sector and is a potent damper on investment. Drought was a severe problem in parts of southern and eastern Africa, disrupting advances in agriculture, environment and trade. Pervasive poverty, poor infrastructure, low technology, and weak administration make these societies highly vulnerable to humanitarian crises and render armed conflicts particularly difficult to manage.

Still, there are many reasons for cautious optimism about Africa's medium-term prospects. Progress is already being made under the four initiatives managed by AFR/SD, with great interest from many development partners. Many countries have also moved ahead in capitalizing on the opportunities created by the U.S. African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). The rapid growth of Internet and other electronic connectivity means that the latest technical advances and lessons learned from decades of arduous effort are far more widely and easily available than ever before.

Significant Changes

This past year was the first post-reorganization year for AFR/SD. While AFR/SD's highest priority has certainly become managing the four initiatives, its ultimate roles and responsibilities are not fully determined, since the new Strategic Plan is still taking shape. AFR/SD staff thus continued to coordinate closely with their pillar bureau colleagues to ensure adequate technical support to a range of clients, including the missions, to avoid both gaps and duplication in coverage.

Beneficiaries

AFR/SD works primarily through USAID country missions, offering guidance and support--particularly in the areas of strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation--and often interacting with African policy-

makers and analysts who work to craft better policies and programs for Africa's development. Intermediate beneficiaries include collaborating governments; private regional networks and research institutions; universities; NGOs and private voluntary organizations (PVOs); and bilateral and regional programs in Africa.

Improved policies and well-targeted, effective programs will benefit everyone, particularly the poor, in countries where AFR/SD operates. And a prosperous, democratic Africa will help create a more stable, peaceful, healthy world in which all, including the United States, can thrive. Program objectives have been developed within this context that contribute to all USAID goals.

Country Close and Graduation:

Results Framework

698-001   Broad-based support for Africa
698-013   Strengthen cross-sectoral synergies between democracy and governance and Africa Bureau programs in key areas
   SO Level Indicator(s):
      Percent of Africa Bureau non-DG intermediate results using approaches that incorporate principles of democratic governance
   13.1 State-of-the art knowledge on cross-sectoral linkages developed and disseminated
   13.2 Knowledge of how to apply DG principles and program components across sectors enhanced
   13.3 Capacity to assess results attributed to program synergies increased

698-014   Adoption of improved strategies, programs, and activities for accelerated, sustainable, and equitable economic growth
   SO Level Indicator(s):
      Number of economic growth policies that are adopted by African partners, donors and USAID missions
   14.1 Improved strategies, policies, and activities for accelerated, sustainable, and equitable economic growth
   14.2 Strengthen African capacity to design, manage, implement, and evaluate equitable economic growth strategies, policies, and activities

698-015   Adoption of improved agricultural policies, programs and strategies
   SO Level Indicator(s):
      Number of new agricultural policies in place
      Number of new technologies available
   15.1 Improved policies, programs, and strategies for sustainable technology development and transfer
   15.2 Improved private-sector agricultural marketing and support services programs, policies and strategies
   15.3 Improved policies and programs for increased impact of agriculture on nutrition
   15.4 Profitable technology for selected commodity systems adopted
   15.5 Policies established to enhance regional, national and international trade in agricultural inputs and outputs
   15.6 Increased access to micronutrient-fortified or naturally rich foods

698-016   Adoption of affordable and more effective mechanisms for producing, sharing, and using development information
   SO Level Indicator(s):
      Number of Internet subscribers in Leland-assisted countries
   16.1 Increased use by development policy makers and practitioners of improved information and communication technology to promote sustainable development
   16.2 Expand networking by development organizations in Africa

698-017   Accelerate progress in the spread of strategically viable and environmentally sound environmental management systems
   SO Level Indicator(s):
      Number of countries in which there is adoption of programs aiming at broader use of sustainable natural resource management practices
   17.1 Support and expand field implementation of NRM programs
   17.2 Flow and use of environmental and NRM information increased
   17.3 Analytical capacity of selected partners in Africa strengthened to asses and advise on environmental trends and management of the environment
   17.4 NRM planning and programming conducted more strategically by AFR
   17.5 Results reporting and partner dialogue on NRM strategies strengthened

698-018   Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, efficiency, and equality of basic education services

698-019   Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency, and equality of health services

   SO Level Indicator(s):

   Number of countries having action plans to improve Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI)

   19.1 Promote improved policies and strategies for innovative health financing and organizational reform

   19.2 Promote improved policies, strategies and approaches for child survival and maternal and health

   19.3 Improve enabling environment to design, manage and evaluate programs

698-020   Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of family planning services

   20.1 Improved policies and strategies to expand reproductive health programs promoted

   20.2 Enabling environment to design, implement, and evaluate reproductive health programs improved

698-021   Adoption of cost-effective strategies to prevent the spread and mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS

   SO Level Indicator(s):

   Number of approaches, communication and advocacy tools, measurement instruments or methodologies developed and used

   21.1 Improved strategies and models to prevent and mitigate HIV/AIDS developed

   21.2 Increased African commitment to HIV/AIDS prevention and mitigation

   21.3 Strengthen African regional and national capacity to plan, manage, and implement HIV/AIDS programs

   21.4 Enhanced coordination of partners to support HIV/AIDS programs in Africa

698-022   Improved policies, strategies and programs for preventing, mitigating, and transiting out of crises

   SO Level Indicator(s):

   Number of contingency plans adopted

   22.1 Epidemic disease preparedness and response

   22.2 Improved environmentally sound and effective management of grasshoppers, locusts and other emergency pests in target countries

   22.3 Improved famine prevention, drought preparedness, and adoption of response plans

   22.4 Country and sub-region conflict prevention, mitigation and resolution/reconciliation improved

698-023   Adoption of effective tools, methods and approaches for improving application of environmental procedures and strategies

   SO Level Indicator(s):

   Number of environmental reviews submitted to and approved by AFR/BEO and AFR/GC

   Number of people trained in environmental review and environmentally sound program design

   23.1 Analytical processes lead to improved environmental soundness of humanitarian and development programs

   23.2 Capacity built to improve environmental review, planning and management, leading to implementation of environmentally sound activities by NGOs/PVOs, African organizations, and other collaborators and partners

   23.3 USAID environmental procedures are integrated into results planning, achieving and monitoring, and applied by SO teams

   23.4 Environmental frameworks in place that lead to incorporation of monitoring, assessment and mitigation into development programs

698-024   Polio eradicated in selected countries in a manner that builds sustainable immunization programs

SO Level Indicator(s):

Improve and integrate acute-flaccid-paralysis surveillance with surveillance for other infectious diseases

Routine immunization coverage for children under 1 year of age increases

Zero cases of confirmed polio reported in all countries

24.1 Strengthen partnerships to support the implementation of polio eradication and immunization/disease control programs

24.2 Strengthen selected immunization support systems in the public and private sectors to achieve polio eradication

24.3 Improve planning and implementation for supplemental polio immunization activities(Including NIDS)

24.4 Improve and integrate acute flaccid paralysis surveillance with surveillance for other infectious diseases

24.5 Promote use of information for continuously improving the quality of polio eradication activities

698-025   Education for Development and Democracy Initiative

25.1 The quality of education and democracy programs developed and disseminated

25.2 Access to and use of technology in education and democracy programs

698-026   Education Sector Programs in Africa Improved

26.1 USAID's education guidance/policy improved

26.2 Program design and implementation strengthened

26.3 Effective innovations in basic education expanded